Amendment No. 1 to SB0476

<u>Gardenhire</u> Signature of Sponsor

AMEND Senate Bill No. 476*

House Bill No. 1253

by deleting all language after the enacting clause and substituting:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 40-25-129, is amended by deleting subdivision (c)(1) and substituting:

(1) Notwithstanding subsections (a) and (b), the department of correction, through the judicial accountant, shall advance or reimburse witness expenses necessary to the prosecution of a criminal case as requested by the district attorney general and approved by the court. In such cases, a determination of indigency is not required; however, the county shall seek to recover the costs of the advance or reimbursement of witness expenses from a convicted defendant as provided in subdivision (a)(2) or another appropriate provision.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 40-25-129, is amended by adding the following new subsection:

(d) This section must be applied liberally to effectuate witnesses for the state being advanced or reimbursed for the cost of all witness expenses allowable under the law in the shortest timeframe possible. This section applies to all cases that fall within the intent of this subsection (d) prior to, or on or after, the effective date of this act.

SECTION 3. This act takes effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.